**To:** Montgomery, Michael[Montgomery.Michael@epa.gov]
**From:** Rao, Kate
**Sent:** Mon 8/10/2015 5:09:11 PM
**Subject:** FW: Region 9 update - Gold King Mine Response


Mike – Are you getting these updates?   If you need to get on the distribution list, I can get you added.



Kate



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Kate Rao
Drinking Water Protection Section (WTR 3-2)
USEPA Region 9
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**From:** Zito, Kelly
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 10:00 AM
**To:** Rao, Kate
**Subject:** Fwd: Region 9 update - GKM Response



Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** <ZITO.KELLY@EPA.GOV>
> **Date:** August 10, 2015 at 8:19:03 AM PDT
> **To:** Paula Smith <smith.paula@epa.gov>, Liz Purchia <Purchia.Liz@epa.gov>, Rusty Harris-Bishop <harris-bishop.rusty@epa.gov>, David Yogi <yogi.david@epa.gov>, DEAN HIGUCHI <higuchi.dean@epa.gov>, Monica Lee <Lee.Monica@epa.gov>, Brent Maier <Maier.Brent@epa.gov>, David Gray <gray.david@epa.gov>, JARED BLUMENFELD <blumenfeld.jared@epa.gov>, "Jessica Kao" <Kao.Jessica@epa.gov>, Bill Keener <keener.bill@epa.gov>, Alexis Strauss <strauss.alexis@epa.gov>
> **Cc:** ENRIQUE MANZANILLA <manzanilla.enrique@epa.gov>, HarryL Allen <Allen.HarryL@epa.gov>
> **Subject: Region 9 update - GKM Response**

Here's the latest information on R9 activities.

Kelly


**EPA Region 9 Activities**

On Saturday (Aug. 8) the President of the Navajo Nation declared a State of Emergency for the San Juan River valley. On Sunday, the President and his staff toured the Gold King Mine Site. R9 PIO Rusty Harris-Bishop escorted the President on the tour. The President and his staff then attended the community meeting in Durango.


The discharge has moved quickly and was observed near Kirtland, NM. Navajo officials have reacted quickly, assessing their well fields and drinking and irrigation water intake systems and issuing a precautionary "do not use" public service annoucement regarding water from potentially impacted sources. Region 9 held a conference call Sunday with Navajo Nation EPA (NNEPA) and Navajo Department of Public Safety.

Region 9 has deployed an On Scene Coordinator (OSC) to the Durango Incident Command Post to coordinate Navajo field activity updates and results with Region 8 and ensure command messages get back to Navajo officials. The Region has also deployed a Public Information Officer (PIO) to participate in a Joint Information Center (JIC), presently in Durango, with and other the affected Federal, State, County and Tribal agencies.

The Navajo EPA surface water monitoring program (Shiprock Office) collected water and sediment samples from the San Juan River - prior to the spill impact. Region 9 has provided 6 START contractors to coordinate and conduct increased sample collection and lab analysis in conjunction with NNEPA. This joint EPA/NNEPA river sampling program has commenced focusing on the San Juan between Shiprock/Hogback, NM area and Mexican Hat, UT and will continue for the forseeable future.

A Region 9 OSC will report to Farmington on Monday to assist. NNEPA also requested drinking water sampling support immediately for Navajo operated water intakes. NNEPA and USEPA drinking water experts agreed to inventory and assess water sources including private wells and intakes.

Region 9 will be providing assistance to Navajo NTUA (utilities) to deliver water to the areas impacted by the Gold King Mine Spill - starting with the Montezuma Creek area. NTUA is sourcing the water from their Sweetwater wells and filling up the service tanks in the affected areas. The ERRS contractor will be providing assistance in the transportation of these waters.

Two Community Involvement Coordinators (CICs) arrived in Farmingtonon Sunday. The CICs will partner with NNEPA and NN Department of Public Safety to ensure comprehensive outreach to all affected Navajo Chapters. The CICs have begun working with local Navajo Chapter officials and will participate in public meetings at Aneth and Oljato on 8/10.

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